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Iraqis are optimistic about the future of their country.

Iraqis believe American troops should stay to complete their mission: ensure security and stabilize their country.

- ✓ **More than two-thirds of Iraqis oppose the immediate withdrawal of American troops.** 70% say American troops should stay until the Iraqi government is in place (19%), security is restored (31%), until Iraqi security forces can operate independently (16%) or longer (4%). Only 26% of Iraqis support the immediate withdrawal of American troops.
- ✓ **Iraqis understand the need for troops to ensure their own security.** 81% say regaining public security is the top priority for the next year, and almost half of all Iraqis say the worst thing that could happen in the next year is lack of security and increased terrorism. Only 28% say getting U.S. and coalition forces out of Iraq should be the top priority for the next year. They understand American troops are training their military and helping to ensure their safety.
- ✓ **Almost half of all Iraqis say it was right for the United States and coalition forces to invade Iraq.** 46% say it was the right thing to do. This shows a 12-point increase in those who believe the United States did the right thing invading Iraq (from only 38% in June of 2004).

Iraqis want a Democracy, believe in their Constitution and elections, and one unified state.

- ✓ **57% of Iraqis support Democracy.** Support for Democracy has increased by 8-points since February 2004. Iraqis believe Democracy is the best choice for their future, 64% say it will be the best type of government for Iraq 5-years from now.
- ✓ **Iraqis overwhelmingly support the Constitution and are confident about the upcoming elections.** 70% of Iraqis approve of the new Iraqi constitution. 76% say they are confident the upcoming elections will create a stable Iraqi government. The majority of Iraqis have become active participants in the process: 60% have voted in elections and 36% say they "might vote" in future elections.
- ✓ **70% of Iraqis want a unified Iraq, not a divided country.** When given the choice between a unified government in Baghdad, regional states or dividing into separate Independent states, Iraqi's choose a unified state by almost a 4-to-1 margin.

Iraqis see progress in their own country and are optimistic about the future.

- ✓ **More than two-thirds of Iraqis say things are going well in their life.** 71% say things in their life are "very" or "quite" good and less than one-third say things are going badly. 64% say things will be "much" or "somewhat" better in the next year.
- ✓ **Iraqi's report vast improvements in their living conditions.** 74% say local schools are good, 70% say their family's economic situation is good, 61% say the security situation in their community is good (a net 24-point improvement from 2/2004) and 62% say the availability of medical care is good (a net 22-point improvement from 2/2004).
- ✓ **Iraqis report improved security since the transfer of power from the coalitional authority.** The plurality of Iraqis report the security situation has improved since the transfer of power in June 2004.

Sources include:

ABC News Poll/Time/BBC/NHK and Der Spiegel: Iraq Poll, N=1711 Iraqis age 15+, October 8-November 22, 2005, MoE +/- 2.5%